



**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**[4910-22-P]**

**Federal Highway Administration**

**Buy America Waiver Notification**

**AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice provides information regarding the FHWA's finding that a Buy America waiver is appropriate for the use of non-domestic Motor and Machinery brakes; maximum torque (20,288 ft-lb), Setting (17,000 ft-lb), Brake capacity (17,700 lb) and minimum brake wheel (13") for rehabilitation of the Congress Parkway Bascule Bridge over the South Branch of the Chicago River in the State of Illinois.

**DATES:** The effective date of the waiver is [insert date one day after publication in Federal Register].

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For questions about this notice, please contact Mr. Gerald Yakowenko, FHWA Office of Program Administration, (202) 366-1562, or via e-mail at [gerald.yakowenko@dot.gov](mailto:gerald.yakowenko@dot.gov). For legal questions, please contact Mr. Michael Harkins, FHWA Office of the Chief Counsel, (202) 366-4928, or via e-mail at [michael.harkins@dot.gov](mailto:michael.harkins@dot.gov). Office hours for the FHWA are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Electronic Access**

An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded from the Federal Register's home page at: <http://www.archives.gov> and the Government Printing Office's database at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara>.

## **Background**

The FHWA's Buy America policy in 23 CFR 635.410 requires a domestic manufacturing process for any steel or iron products (including protective coatings) that are permanently incorporated in a Federal-aid construction project. The regulation also provides for a waiver of the Buy America requirements when the application would be inconsistent with the public interest or when satisfactory quality domestic steel and iron products are not sufficiently available. This notice provides information regarding the FHWA's finding that a Buy America waiver is appropriate to use non-domestic Motor and Machinery brakes; maximum torque (20,288 ft-lb), Setting (17,000 ft-lb), Brake capacity (17,700 lb) and minimum brake wheel (13") in the State of Illinois.

In accordance with Division A, section 123 of the "Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010" (Pub. L. 111-117), the FHWA published a notice of intent to issue a waiver on its Web site for Motor and Machinery brakes; maximum torque (20,288 ft-lb), Setting (17,000 ft-lb), Brake capacity (17,700 lb) and minimum brake wheel (13") in the State of Illinois (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/construction/contracts/waivers.cfm?id=61>) on August 11th, 2011. The FHWA received no comments in response to the publication. During the 15-day comment period, the FHWA conducted additional nationwide review to locate potential domestic manufacturers of Motor and Machinery brakes; maximum torque (20,288 ft-lb), Setting (17,000 ft-lb), Brake capacity (17,700 lb) and minimum brake wheel (13") in the State of Illinois. Based on all the information available to the agency, the FHWA concludes that there are no domestic manufacturers of Motor and Machinery brakes; maximum torque (20,288 ft-lb), Setting (17,000 ft-lb), Brake capacity (17,700 lb) and minimum brake wheel (13").

In accordance with the provisions of section 117 of the SAFETEA-LU Technical Corrections Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-244, 122 Stat. 1572), the FHWA is providing this notice as its finding that a waiver of Buy America requirements is appropriate. The FHWA invites public comment on this finding for an additional 15 days following the effective date of the finding. Comments may be submitted to the FHWA's Web site via the link provided to the Illinois waiver page noted above.

(Authority: 23 U.S.C. 313; Pub. L. 110-161, 23 CFR 635.410)

Issued on: January 27, 2012

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Victor M. Mendez  
Administrator

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